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## First Lady to Join WYOMING PBS Clifford Tour in Powell

CHEYENNE, Wyo. – First Lady Carol Mead will be the celebrity reader for the Clifford Tour stop at the Powell Branch Library on Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Her participation is part of her continued work to promote literacy among children throughout Wyoming. Mrs. Mead and PBS character, Clifford the Big Red Dog, will be at the Powell Branch Library from 3:30 to 4:30 on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

"I have enjoyed reading to children all over the state, and I am really looking forward to sharing some stories with Powell area kids and meeting Clifford," said Mrs. Mead. "I welcome the opportunity to get together with some of Wyoming's youngest citizens and share a love of reading." Since becoming First Lady, Mrs. Mead has enjoyed reading to children throughout the state at schools and local libraries. She also encourages parents and children to spend at least 20 minutes a day reading together at home and is working with the University of Wyoming to establish a statewide literacy research center and clinic. These activities are part of her children's issues initiative, which includes promoting literacy, the arts, and healthy lifestyles among Wyoming's kids.

The Clifford Tour is sponsored by WYOMING PBS and Wyoming Quality Counts. The Tour is part of the PBS Ready To Learn program, an educational outreach program aimed at supporting literacy and social/emotional growth and development among children from birth to eight years of age. WY Quality Counts and Wyoming PBS are committed partners in the effort to increase early childhood literacy throughout Wyoming. The WY Quality Counts! Program is housed in the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services.